

5-9-1940

Twenty-second Annual May Festival of the Hays Community Music Festival Association Program-Page 1

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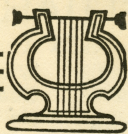
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The Hays Community Music Festival Association

Presents the 22nd Annual

MAY FESTIVAL

Fort Hays Kansas State College

SERIES XXII

NUMBER III

CHORAL UNION SERIES

"ELIJAH"

By Felix Mendelssohn

WILLIAM HUGH MILLER, Conductor

— o —

SHERIDAN COLISEUM

Thursday Evening, May 9, 1940

Fifteen After Eight

— o —

SOLOISTS

Mary Jane Shepherd.....Soprano
Gladys Havens.....Contralto

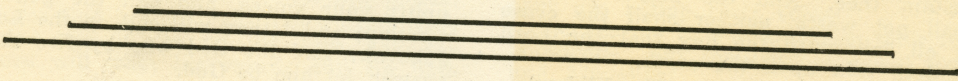
Charles Prazak.....Tenor
Mark Bills.....Bass

— o —

Carl Malmberg.....Concertmeister

Lorene Harger.....Pianist

Virginia Maranville (The Youth)..... Soprano



"ELIJAH"

PART I

INTRODUCTION

RECITATIVE (Elijah)

As God the Lord of Israel Liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

OVERTURE

CHORUS (The People)

Help, Lord! wilt Thou quite destroy us?

The harvest now is over, the summer days are gone, and yet no power cometh to help us! Will then the Lord be no more God in Zion?

RECITATIVE (Chorus)

The deeps afford no water; and the rivers are exhausted! The suckling's tongue now cleaveth for thirst to his mouth: the infant children ask for bread, and there is no one breaketh it to feed them!

DUET AND CHORUS (The People)

Lord! bow thine ear to our prayer!

Zion spreadeth her hands for aid; and there is neither help nor comfort.

RECITATIVE (Obadiah)

Ye people, rend your hearts, and not your garments, for your transgressions the Prophet Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God. I therefore say to ye, Forsake your idols, return to God; for He is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind and gracious, and repenteth Him of the evil.

AIR (Obadiah)

If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me. Thus saith our God.

Oh! that I knew where I might find Him, that I might even come before His presence.

CHORUS (The People)

Yet doth the Lord see it not; He mocketh at us; His curse hath fallen down upon us; His wrath will pursue us, till He destroy us!

For He, the Lord our God, He is a jealous God; and He visiteth all the fathers' sins on the children to the third and fourth generation of them that hate Him. His mercies on thousands fall—fall on all them that love Him, and keep His commandments.

RECITATIVE (An Angel)

Elijah! get thee hence; depart, and turn thee eastward: thither hide thee by Cherith's brook. There shalt thou drink its waters; and the Lord thy God hath commanded the ravens to feed thee there: so do according unto his word.

A CAPPELLA CHOIR (Angels)

For He shall give His angels charge over thee; that they shall protect thee in all the ways thou goest; that their hands shall uphold and guide thee, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

RECITATIVE (An Angel)

Now Cherith's brook is dried up, Elijah, arise and depart and get thee to Zarephath; thither abide: for the Lord hath commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee. And the barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.

RECITATIVE AND AIR (The Widow)

What have I to do with thee, O man of God? art thou come to me, to call my sin unto remembrance?—to slay my son art thou come hither? Help me, man of God! my son is sick! and his sickness is so sore, that there is no breath left in him! I go mourning all the day long; I lie down and weep at night. See mine affliction. Be thou the orphan's helper!

ELIJAH

Give me thy son. Turn unto her, O Lord My God; in mercy help this widow's son! For Thou art gracious, and full of compassion, and plenteous in mercy and truth. Lord, my God, O let thy spirit of this child return, that he again may live.

THE WIDOW

Wilt thou show wonders to the dead? Shall the dead arise and praise thee?

ELIJAH

Lord, my God, O let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live!

THE WIDOW

The Lord hath heard thy prayer, the soul of my son reviveth.

ELIJAH

Now behold, thy son liveth!

THE WIDOW

Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that His word in thy mouth is the truth. What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?

BOTH

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

O blessed are they who fear Him!

CHORUS

Blessed are the men who fear Him: they ever walk in the ways of peace. Through darkness riseth light to the upright. He is gracious, compassionate; He is righteous.

RECITATIVE (Elijah, Ahab, and Chorus)

ELIJAH

As God the Lord of Sabaoth liveth, before whom I stand, three years this day fulfilled, I will show myself unto Ahab; and the Lord will then send rain again upon the earth.

AHAB

Art thou Elijah? art thou he that troubleth Israel!

CHORUS

Thou art Elijah, he that troubleth Israel!

ELIJAH

I never troubled Israel's peace: it is thou, Ahab, and all thy father's house. Ye have foresaken God's commands; and thou hast followed Baalim!

Now send and gather to me, the whole of Israel unto Mount Carmel: there summon the prophets of Baal, and also the prophets of the groves, who are feasted at Jezebel's table. Then we shall see whose God is Lord.

CHORUS

And then we shall see whose God is God the Lord.

ELIJAH

Rise then, ye priests of Baal: select and slay a bullock, and put no fire under it: uplift your voices, and call the god ye worship; and I then will call on the Lord Jehovah: and the God who by fire shall answer, let him be God.

CHORUS

Yea, and the God who by fire shall answer, let him be God.

ELIJAH

Call first upon your god: your numbers are many: I, even I, only remain, one prophet of the Lord! Invoke your forest-gods and mountain-deities.

CHORUS (Priests of Baal)

Baal, we cry to thee! Hear and answer us; Heed the sacrifice we offer! Hear us! oh hear us, Baal!

Hear, mighty god! Baal, O answer us! Let thy flames fall and extirpate the foe! O hear us, Baal!

RECITATIVE (Elijah)

Call him louder, for he is a god! He talketh; or he is pursuing; or he is in a journey; or, peradventure, he sleepeth; so awaken him: call him louder.

CHORUS (Priests of Baal)

Hear our cry, O Baal! now arise! wherefore slumber?

RECITATIVE AND AIR (Elijah)

Call him louder! he heareth not. With knives and lancets cut yourselves after your manner, leap upon the altar ye have made: call him, and prophesy! Not a voice will answer you; none will listen, none heed you.

CHORUS (Priests of Baal)

Hear and answer, Baal! Mark! how the scorner derideth us! Hear and answer!

RECITATIVE AND AIR (Elijah)

Draw near, all ye people: come to me!

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel! this day let it be known that Thou art God; and I am Thy servant! O show to all this people that I have done all these things according to thy word! O hear me, Lord, and answer me; and show this people that Thou art Lord God; and let their hearts again be turned.

A CAPPELLA CHOIR (Angels)

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee. He never will suffer the righteous to fall: He is at thy right hand.

Thy mercy, Lord, is great; and far above the heavens. Let none be made ashamed that wait upon Thee.

RECITATIVE (Elijah)

O Thou, who makest thine angels spirits;—Thou, whose ministers are flaming fires, let them now descend!

CHORUS (The People)

The fire descends from heaven; the flames consume his offering!

Before Him upon your faces fall! The Lord is God: O Israel, hear! Our God is one Lord: and we will have no other gods before the Lord.

RECITATIVE (Elijah)

Take all the prophets of Baal; and let not one of them escape you: bring them down to Kishon's brook, and there let them be slain.

CHORUS (The People)

Take all the prophets of Baal; and let not one of them escape us: bring all, and slay them!

AIR (Elijah)

Is not his word like a fire: and like a hammer that breaketh the rock into pieces?

For God is angry with the wicked every day: and if the wicked turn not, the Lord will whet his sword; and He hath

bent His bow, and made it ready.

AIR (Elijah)

Wee unto them who forsake Him! destruction shall fall upon them, for they have transgressed against Him. Though they are by Him redeemed, yet they have spoken falsely against Him.

RECITATIVE AND CHORUS

OBADIAH

O man of God, help thy people. Among the Idols of the Gentiles, are there any that can command the rain, or cause the heavens to give their showers? The Lord our God alone can do these things.

ELIJAH

O Lord, thou hast overthrown thine enemies and destroyed them. Look down on us from heaven, O Lord; regard the distress of Thy people: open the heavens and send us relief: help, help Thy servant now, O God!

THE PEOPLE

Open the heavens and send us relief: help, help Thy servant now, O God!

ELIJAH

Go up now, child, and look toward the sea. Hath my prayer been heard by the Lord?

THE YOUTH

There is nothing. The heavens are as brass above me.

ELIJAH

When the heavens are closed up because they have sinned against Thee, yet if they pray and confess Thy name, and turn from their sin when Thou dost afflict them: then hear from heaven, and forgive the sin: Help! send Thy servant help, O God!

THE PEOPLE

Then hear from heaven and forgive the sin! Help! send thy servant help, O Lord.

ELIJAH

Go up again, and still look toward the sea.

THE YOUTH

There is nothing. The earth is as iron under me!

ELIJAH

Hearest thou no sound of rain? Seest thou nothing arise from the deep?

THE YOUTH

No; there is nothing.

ELIJAH

Have respect to the prayer of Thy servant, O Lord, My God! Unto Thee will I cry, Lord, my rock; be not silent to me; and thy great mercies remember, Lord.

THE YOUTH

Behold, a little cloud ariseth now from the waters; it is like a man's hand! The heavens are black with clouds and with wind: the storm rusheth louder and louder.

THE PEOPLE

Thanks be to God, for all His Mercies.

ELIJAH

Thanks be to God, for He is gracious, and his mercy endureth for evermore!

CHORUS

Thanks be to God. He laveth the thirsty land. The waters gather; they rush along; they are lifting their voices.

The stormy billows are high; their fury is mighty. But the Lord is above them, and Almighty!

INTRO
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AIR (Soprano)
Hear ye, Israel; hear what the Lord
speaketh: "Oh hadst thou heeded my com-
mandments!" Who hath believed our re-
port; to whom is the arm of the Lord
revealed? Thus saith the Lord, the Re-
deemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to
him oppressed by Tyrants: thus saith the
Lord:—I am He that comforteth; be not
afraid, for I am thy God, I will strengthen
thee. Say, who art thou, that thou art
gettest of a man that shall die; and for-
stretched forth the heavens, and laid the
earth's foundations? Be not afraid, for
I, thy God, will strengthen thee.

CHORUS

Be not afraid, saith God the Lord. Be
not afraid! thy help is near. God, the
Lord thy God, saith unto thee, "Be not
afraid!" Though thousands languish and
fall beside thee, and tens of thousands
around thee perish, yet still it shall not
come nigh thee.

RECITATIVE (Obadiah, Elijah)

Man of God, now let my words be precious
in thy sight. Thus saith Jezebel; "Elijah
is worthy to die." So the mighty gather
against thee, and they have prepared a
net for thy steps; that they may seize
thee, that they may slay thee. Arise, then
and hasten for thy life; to the wilderness
journey. The Lord thy God doth go with
thee. He will not fail thee, He will not
forsake thee. Now begone, and bless me
also.

Though stricken, they have not grieved!
Tarry here, my servant: the Lord be with
thee. I journey hence to the wilderness.

AIR (Elijah)

It is enough, O Lord; now take away my
life, for I am not better than my fathers!
I desire to live no longer: now let me
die, for my days are but vanity! I have
been very jealous for the Lord God of
Hosts! for the children of Israel have
broken the covenant, thrown down thine
altars, and slain Thy prophets with the
sword: and I, even I, only am left; and
they seek my life to take it away.

RECITATIVE

See, now he sleepeth beneath a juniper
tree in the wilderness: and there the
angels of the Lord encamp round about
all them that fear Him.

CHORUS (Angels)

Lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence
cometh help. Thy help cometh from the
Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.
He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved;
thy Keeper will never slumber.

RECITATIVE (An angel)

Arise, Elijah, for thou hast a long journey
before thee. Forty days and forty nights
shalt thou go; to Horeb, the mount of
God.

PART II

RECITATIVE (Elijah)

O Lord, I have laboured in vain; yea
have spent my strength for naught! O
that thou wouldst rend the heavens, that
that thou wouldst come down; that the moun-
tains would flow down at Thy presence
to make Thy name known to Thine adver-
saries, through the wonders of Thy works!
O Lord, why hast Thou made them to err
from Thy ways, and hardened their hearts
that they do not fear Thee? O that I now
might die!

AIR (Contralto)

O rest in the Lord; wait patiently for
Him, and He shall give thee they heart's
desires. Commit thy way unto him, and
trust in Him, and fret not thyself be-
cause of evil doers.

RECITATIVE (Chorus)

Go, return upon thy way! For the Lord
yet hath left Him seven thousand in
Israel, knees which have not bowed to
Baal: go, return upon thy way; Thus the
Lord commandeth.

RECITATIVE (Elijah)

I go on my way in the strength of the
Lord. For Thou art my Lord; and I will
suffer for Thy sake. My heart is there-
fore glad, my glory rejoiceth, and my
flesh shall also rest in hope.

AIR (Elijah)

For the mountains shall depart and the
hills be removed; but thy kindness shall
not depart from me, neither shall the
covenant of thy Peace be removed.

CHORUS

Then did Elijah the prophet break forth
like a fire; his words appeared like burn-
ing torches. Mighty kings by him were
overthrown. He stood on the mount of
Sinai and heard the judgments of the
future; and in Horeb, its vengeance. And
when the Lord would take him away to
heaven, lo! there came a fiery chariot,
with fiery horses; and he went by a
whirlwind to heaven.

AIR (Tenor)

Then shall the righteous shine forth as
the sun in their heavenly Father's realm.
Joy on their head shall be everlasting, and
all sorrow and mourning shall flee away
for ever.

QUARTET (soloists)

O! come every one that thirsteth, O!
come to the waters: come unto Him. O
hear, and your soul shall live for ever!

CHORUS

And then shall your light break forth as
the light of morning breaketh; and your
health shall speedily spring forth then;
and the glory of the Lord ever shall reward
you.

Lord, our Creator, how excellent Thy
name is in all the nations! Thou fillest
heaven with thy glory. Amen!

The Steinway piano is the official concert instrument of the Festival

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Mrs. V. Wells - - - First Vice President
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Hays Community Music Festival Association

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NEWS-HAYS

of oil fall, and
sendeth rain upon the

RECITATIVE AND AIR (The Widow)